

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

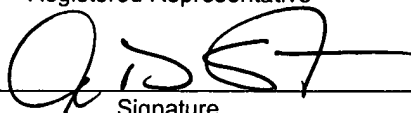
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

3/11/04

Date of Deposit

Andrew D. Stover, Reg. No. 38,629

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative



Signature

3/11/04

Date of Signature

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MAR 17 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Our Case No.: 659-920

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

RICHLEN ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/032,701

Filing Date: December 28, 2001

For: **ABSORBENT GARMENT HAVING
A WEAKENED REGION**

Examiner: Karin M. Reichle

Group Art Unit No.: 3761

SIXTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Sixth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

| U.S. PATENT NO. | ISSUE DATE | PATENTEE |
|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| 3,835,754 | 09/1974 | LEWYCKYJ |
| 4,217,327 | 08/1980 | CANCIO ET AL. |
| 4,561,579 | 12/1985 | FLEMING ET AL. |
| 5,562,964 | 10/1996 | JONES |
| 5,704,566 | 01/1998 | SCHUTZ ET AL. |
| 6,368,689 B1 | 04/2002 | SLEDGE ET AL. |
| 6,395,211 B1 | 05/2002 | DETTMER ET AL. |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| JP 10/315339 A | 12/1998 | JAPAN |

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Machine translation of JP 10-315339 A, 2004, Japanese Patent Office website.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Sixth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Pursuant to the undersigned attorney's obligation and duties under C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.98(a)(3), a machine translation of JP 10-315339 A, 2004, is provided for the express purpose of providing a concise explanation of that reference to the Examiner and the USPTO with opportunity to evaluate the same.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R §1.97(c)(1) and (e), Applicant's undersigned attorney hereby states that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making

reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Sixth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Stover', is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew D. Stover
Registration No. 38,629
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
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Chicago, IL 60610
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|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| FORM PCT/1449 | SERIAL NO. 10/032,701 | CASE NO. 659-920 |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | FILING DATE December 28, 2001 | GROUP ART UNIT 3761 |
| (use several sheets if necessary) | APPLICANT(S): RICHLEN et al. | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small> | DATE | NAME | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|-----------------------------|----|--|-------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| | G1 | 3,835,754 | 09/1974 | LEWYCKYJ | | |
| | G2 | 4,217,327 | 08/1980 | CANCIO ET AL. | | |
| | G3 | 4,561,579 | 12/1985 | FLEMING ET AL. | | |
| | G4 | 5,562,964 | 10/1996 | JONES | | |
| | G5 | 5,704,566 | 01/1998 | SCHUTZ ET AL. | | |
| | G6 | 6,368,689 B1 | 04/2002 | SLEDGE ET AL. | | |
| | G7 | 6,395,211 B1 | 05/2002 | DETTMER ET AL. | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small> | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES OR NO |
|---------------------|----|--|---------|---------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| | G8 | JP 10-315339 A | 12/1998 | JAPAN | | NO |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| | (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | |
| | G9 | MACHINE TRANSLATION OF JP 10-315339 A, 2004, JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE WEBSITE. |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.